

Message Text

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62

ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /037 W

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R 291828Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8561

UNCLAS LONDON 01498

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: 1976/77 UK SUGAR BEET PLANTING INTENTION

1. BRITISH SUGAR CORPORATION (BSC) ANNOUNCED 1/26 THAT TARGET SUGAR BEET ACREAGE FOR THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ACHIEVED AND ACCEPTANCES ARE NOW BEING SENT TO GROWERS FOR A RECORD 510,000 ACRES (488,000 ACRES ACCEPTED 1975/76 BUT ACTUAL PLANTINGS AMOUNTED TO 480,000 ACRES.)

2. BSC OFFICIALS SAY ACTUAL AREA SOWN COULD FALL SLIGHTLY SHORT OF ACCEPTED 510,000 ACRES. GROWERS ARE ENCOURAGED BY INDUSTRY'S PLAN FOR EXPANSION AND THE EXPECTED BEET PRICE OF CLOSE TO POUNDS STERLING 19.00 PER TON. IT WAS NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT BY SOWING TIME EXPECTED RETURNS FROM ALTERNATIVE CROPS MAY HAVE IMPROVED RELATIVE TO BEETS -- AND THUS, LESS THAN THE ANNOUNCED INTENTION COULD BE ACTUALLY SOWN.

3. COMMENT: IF THE TOTAL ACCEPTED ACREAGE IS SOWN, ONLY WITH EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD YIELDS WOULD TOTAL PRODUCTION LIKELY EXCEED THE "A" QUOTA CEILING OF 1,040,000 METRIC TONS. SHOULD DOMESTIC PRODUCTION EQUAL THE "A" QUOTA, APPROXIMATELY 2.3# MILLION METRIC TONS OF RAW SUGAR WILL STILL HAVE TO BE IMPORTED DURING THE 1976/77 CROP YEAR TO MAINTAIN CURRENT LEVELS OF

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CONSUMPTION.

SPIERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUGAR, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, DATA, VEGETABLES, PRICES
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Draft Date: 29 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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